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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On March 29, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Reule Sauerbrey

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 018547-019420US
Client Ref. No.: 3014.1



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID J. LOCKHART et al.

Application No.: 09/880,727

Filed: June 13, 2001

For: NUCLEIC ACID ANALYSIS
TECHNIQUES

Examiner: S.W. Houtteman

Art Unit: 1655

**RESPONSE TO ALLEGED OMISSION OF
FIG. 12A AND FIG. 12B AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 12 illustrates the probe oligonucleotide/ligation reaction system.

Fig. 12 (upper portion) generally illustrates the various components of the probe

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